

A photograph of a family of three walking on a sidewalk in front of a two-story house. The father, wearing a green polo shirt and blue jeans, is holding the hand of a young child in a green vest. The mother, wearing a teal cardigan and blue jeans, is also holding the child's hand. The house has light-colored siding and a covered porch. A red car is parked in the background.

Hoosier Families First

Tough Challenges - Great Opportunities

Taxpayer Protection

- **Balanced Budget:** No gimmicks. No deficits. No tax increases.
- **Permanent Property Tax Caps:** Pass SJR1 in 2009.
- **Strict State Spending Discipline:** Protect our existing reserves and Rainy Day Fund.
- **Local Government Reform:** Maintain local spending caps and consider local reforms.

Job Creation: Focus on the Future

- **Do No Harm to Business:** No new general business taxes or burdensome regulations.
- **Review and Enhance Job Creation Initiatives of 2005-2008:** Continue gains made toward bringing higher-paying jobs to Indiana.
- **Focus on Recovery:**
 - Local Option to Eliminate Personal Property Tax in Tech Parks
 - Hoosier Business Renewable Energy Tax Credit

Education Reform

- **More Dollars to the Classroom:** Require 65% of every education dollar to be spent in the classroom. Currently, only 61% makes its way to the classroom.
- **Teacher Competency Testing:** Give teachers the opportunity to take tests in their specific teaching areas and receive bonus pay for passing.
- **Protect Charter Schools and Parental Choice**
- **Establish Hope Scholarship Infrastructure**
- **Enact Defense of Teacher measures**